

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-10

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, DA

SUBJECT: DANISH VIEWS ON ISSUES ARISING AT EUROPEAN

SPACE CONFERENCE (ESC) MINISTERIAL MEETING -

JULY 31, 1973

REF: (A) COPENHAGEN 5352, DEC 19, 1972 NOTAL;

B. STATE119186 NOTAL; (C) PARIS 19308

1. SUMMARY: DANES BELIEVE ITALIAN DECISION ON L3S FINANCING
IS CRITICAL TO BOTH THAT PROJECT AND MUCH OF EUROPEAN SPACE
PACKAGE CURRENTLY BEING CONSIDERED. END SUMMARY

2. DURING CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL
(JAKOB ESPER LARSEN - ECONOMIC/POLITICAL - CONCERNED WITH
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INTERNATIONAL SPACE MATTERS) MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON

SUBJECTS LIKELY TO ARISE AT ESC MEETING ON JULY 31.

3. L3S - ESPER LARSEN SAID THAT L3S FINANCING WAS PROBABLY MOST IMPORTANT POINT TO BE DISCUSSED ON JULY 31. ITALIAN DECISION ON ITS SHARE WAS CRITICAL. IF ITALIANS DID NOT AGREE TO FINANCE "BETWEEN 8 TO 10 PCT OF L3S", HE BELIEVES THE PROJECT WILL BE JEOPARDIZED, TOGETHER WITH A NUMBER OF INTER-RELATED MATTERS. DENMARK HAD AGREED TO SUPPORT L3S "IN PRINCIPLE" BUT NO FINAL PERCENTAGE DECIDED ALTHOUGH HE DID MENTION 0.5 PCT.

4. US LAUNCHER TECHNOLOGY - HE DISCUSSED FRENCH AND ESRO STAFF UNCERTAINTIES ON AVAILABILITY OF US LAUNCHERS OR TECHNOLOGY BUT ALSO NOTED THAT FRENCH CONSIDER L3S AS "THEIR BABY" WHICH OBVIOUSLY INTENDED TO REPLACE U.S. WITH "EUROPEAN" CAPABILITY.

5. JOINT PROJECTS - ESPER LARSEN SAW UK WILLINGNESS TO DROP GTS FOR MAROTS (REF C) AS EXAMPLE OF UK INTEREST IN "INTERNATIONALIZATION OF NATIONAL PROJECTS" IN CONTRAST TO A LESSER FRENCH EMPHASIS IN THIS DIRECTION. DENMARK ALSO TENDED TO FAVOR "INTERNATIONALIZATION" WHICH MADE MORE SCIENTIFIC KNOW-HOW AND CONTRACT SHARES AVAILABLE FOR SCIENTIFIC AND BUSINESS SECTORS IN SMALL COUNTRIES. ON THE OTHER HAND, DANISH SUPPORT OF THIS IS TEMPERED BY RECOGNITION OF THE MODEST INDUSTRIAL CAPABILITY HERE.

6. SPACELAB - ESPER LARSEN REFERRED TO DRAFT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS AND USG, SAYING HE UNDERSTOOD IT WOULD VERY POSSIBLY BE SIGNED ON AUGUST 15 WITH DOCUMENT BEING OPEN FOR ADDITIONAL SIGNATURES UNTIL SEPT 15. DENMARK HAD NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROJECT BUT MUST DECIDE SOON BECAUSE OF THIS TIME FRAME.

7. ESA - ESPER LARSEN BELIEVES THAT IF FRENCH WERE NOT PRESSING SO HARD FOR L3S, WITH COMENSURATE HEAVY LAUNCHER ASPECT OF NEW EUROPEAN SPACE ENTITY, ESA WOULD MERELY BE "RETOOLED ESRO". FINAL DECISION ON CREATION, STRUCTURE, AND TASKS OF ESA WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO WAIT ON RESOLUTION OF L3S QUESTION.

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8. DANISH DELEGATION - DENMARK WILL BE REPRESENTED ON JULY 31 BY ESPER LARSEN, JESPER KNUDSON OF SAME OFFICE IN FONOFF, AND VERY LIKELY ERIK WINTER, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COUNSELOR, DANISH EMBASSY, PARIS. NO MINISTER WILL ATTEND. DECON OCT 31. 1973. DUNNIGAN

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